

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 16, 20 and 27 are amended. The amendments are supported, for example, by Applicants' Figs. 1-4, 9, 10, 19, 20 and 34, pg. 2, lines 1-5, pg. 23, line 6 - pg. 24, line 6, pg. 29, lines 1-19, pg. 35, line 5 - pg. 37, line 14, and pg. 61, line 9 - pg. 65, line 5. No new matter is added.

Applicants acknowledge the withdrawal of the previous grounds of rejection in favor of new grounds.

In the Office Action, claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7,280,237 to Komiya in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2003/0076523 to Ito et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 16, 20 and 27 are amended for further clarity and now identify structure and functions that enable a second printer to output an image that is identical with that output by a first printer, different from the second printer. The first printer is at a print system while the second, different printer is at a user system. This is achieved, for example, by obtaining a parameter including a target profile (TP) of the first printer of a print system, and a device profile (DP) of the second, different printer of a user system, and generating a device link profile (DLP) based on the target profile (TP) and device profile (DP). Raster image processing is then executed in accordance with the parameters including the DLP data to enable image output from the second printer that is identical with that output by the first printer.

For example, in print system 3, colorimeter device 34 may scan and read print results of a printing device 36 to generate TP data indicating the relation between image data, which is a print target, and a print result (pg. 23, lines 15-19 and Figs. 1-4) from print system printing device 36. Similarly, in user system 4, colorimeter device 46 may scan print results

from printer 44 and generate DP data indicating the relation between image data, which is a print target, and the print result from the user system printer 44 (pg. 29, lines 108 and Figs. 1-4). Then, DLP data is generated using the TP data and the DP data to obtain a result upon raster image processing of a print from printer 44 as if the print were made using printing device 36 (pg. 29, lines 14-24).

Komiya is alleged to teach a print control apparatus and method used for trial processing of various modes of a trial print (Fig. 1) and obtains set variables and options for generating a test print using a first printer (printer 112 at test print shop 111) prior to actual printing of a print job at an actual print location using a second, different printer (printer 114 in actual print shop 113). It is also alleged that printers 112 and 114 are taught to be similar (col. 5, lines 20-28).

However, although printers 112 and 114 may be similar, Komiya fails to provide any teaching of how to make the output identical for test purposes, and clearly fails to teach obtaining a parameter including a target profile (TP) of a first printer of a print system, and a device profile (DP) of a second, different printer of a user system, or generating a device link profile (DLP) based on the target profile (TP) and device profile (DP). Moreover, Komiya fails to teach executing raster image processing in accordance with the parameters (including the DLP data) to enable image output from the second printer that is identical with that output by the first printer as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 16, 20 and 27. In fact, as admitted, Komiya fails to even teach raster image processing and thus cannot contemplate generation of profile data to be used in conjunction with raster image processing.

The Office Action relies on Ito for raster image processing. However, Ito is directed to a diagnostic method and apparatus for diagnosing print picture quality and merely transfers test data for a test print to an image processing apparatus for raster image processing using a

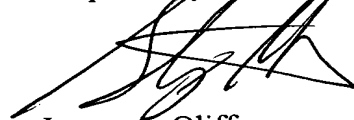
raster image processor (RIP) (paragraph [0046]). Thus, Ito fails to overcome the deficiencies of Komiya with respect to the various independent claims.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 16, 20 and 27 and claims dependent therefrom distinguish over Komiya in view of Ito. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-34 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SPC/add

Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: August 21, 2008

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